## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** JULY 2, 2004

TO: DIVISION OF SOIL CONSERVATION STAFF

FROM: DEBORAH MESSENGER, INFORMATION SPECIALIST

**RE:** STATE FAIR 2004

The start of the 2004 Indiana State Fair is just around the corner.

This year, the Division of Soil Conservation will join other DNR divisions to exhibit "Invaders in the Heartland". This combined display will focus on exotic and invasive species threatening our beautiful state. The objective is to inform/educate the public on invasive species and what they can do to help stop the spread.

What does this mean to you as a DSC employee?

Each Division of Soil Conservation staff member will be expected to work at least one three-hour shift at the Pathway to Water Quality. Please be advised that at this time there are no known shifts available in the Natural Resources Building.

The Pathway to Water Quality exhibit continues to improve each year. A water history log cabin was added two years ago and new prairie plantings last year. The Pathway is the "oasis" of the fairgrounds. The water quality educational effort showcases natural resources and watershed conservation ethics and is visited by more than 25,000 people during the 12 day event.

This year's Indiana State Fair runs from August 11-22. For those new to the Division of Soil Conservation, the Pathway to Water Quality (located north-east corner of fairgrounds) is a 1/3 acre model watershed demonstrating best management practices for a variety of land uses commonly found in a typical Indiana watershed. Like past years, there will be three shifts available for volunteers to sign up for during each day of the fair. Everyone who signs up will receive a ticket for entry into the fairgrounds.

Those signing up and working a weekend shift will also receive an additional entry ticket into the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Parking is usually available on the infield of the fairgrounds or to the north side of the fairgrounds at the Indiana Deaf School at no cost.

Additional tickets for the Indiana State Fair may be purchased July 1 - August 5 for \$5 each at any of the following locations: CVS Pharmacies, Union Federal Banks, Marsh Supermarkets, County Farm Bureau offices, The Marten House Hotel, and the Indiana State Fair Box Office. Tickets may also be purchased at the State Fairground gates for \$6 during the fair.

To sign up for your shift at PWQ, please refer to the attached schedule or sign up at www.in.gov/dnr/soilcons/news/pwq. Once you have determined which schedule you wish to work, please notify via phone, fax or email either Deborah Messenger or Deb Fairhurst.

While staffing the PWQ area, please wear the DNR uniform components, including a DNR deputy shirt or DNR golf shirt (*but not DNR T-shirts*), and uniform slacks, khaki or earth tone slacks or shorts. *Please no blue jeans or blue jean shorts*.

The Indiana State Fairgrounds is located off Fall Creek Parkway and 38<sup>th</sup> Street on the northeast side of Indianapolis. To obtain travel directions and/or map, check out the Indiana State Fair's official website at www.in.gov/statefair/maps/index.html.

Use of your DNR vehicle is permitted; however, please remember that only partnership employees should accompany you in the state vehicle.

Plan now to flex your schedule to cover your work time at the fair, including travel time. If you work a Saturday or Sunday shift, mark your time sheet accordingly as regular time worked, *not* comp time and flex your schedule accordingly. If you work a weekend shift, please notify your supervisor which weekday you will not be working during that pay period.

July 2, 2004